Two become One

Join us to celebrate the formation of

**London Road Church, Harleston (Methodist & URC)**

At a Partnership Service to be held in London Road Church on Sunday 3rd September 2017 at 1030. Preacher: Rev’d Julian Pursehouse. There will be Representatives of both denominations and invited guests sharing this happy occasion with us. The service will include Holy Communion and be followed by a shared lunch. **All** welcome.

Isaiah 43.19: *I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth*
London Road Church, Harleston

Saturday 2nd September

10am to 4pm the church will open for a flower festival, photos and archives from the two churches, musical interludes, tea and cake, and cake and plant stalls

7pm a ‘free’ concert of Roger Jones’ musical “Pharisee” with The Waveney Valley Partnership Singers

Minister’s Letter

As I write this Ireland is fading into memory and two weeks at home beckons. When I return we will be gearing up for new things. Taking my final wedding at Harleston this year, I’m reminded that in only a few weeks we will be celebrating the two churches coming together. Of course those of you who are alert will realise that this is not the only celebration on the horizon. It will ten years since the partnership was formed, and whilst there have been many changes, there have also been some real successes in learning to work with one another with all the differences that we have, as well as the similarities.

Whilst in Ireland I travelled between both the South and the North of the island. They have much in common, but also rather a lot that separates them, not least having to use two different currencies. One thing that I did notice was that traffic moved much more freely in rural communities than it does in our own. This was because there is evidence that the principal routes have been planned more efficiently. On all the ‘A’ roads (even when single carriageway), there is space at the side of the road for slower vehicles to move in to allow overtaking, and of course this also provides good protection for both cyclists and riders.

It’s the little things that make such a difference in our world today. Random acts of kindness: letting other people out at a difficult junction, picking something up for someone, looking out for others – I could go on. All these things help to bring the Kingdom of God here to the earth, now. They make this world a more contented place, a place where we are not arguing, but are finding solutions to our differences, not revelling in the problems. Harleston is treading this path as they turn two churches into one. Let’s pray with them that they can help create God’s Kingdom, here on earth.

Jacquie